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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/587,589	06/02/2000	Hidetoshi Ichioka	450100-02565	8966

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EXAMINER

LUU, SY D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2174

DATE MAILED: 12/31/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/587,589

Applicant(s)

ICHIOKA, HIDETOSHI

Examiner

Sy D Luu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 October 2003 and 04 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to the RCE and Amendment B, filed 10/10/03 and 9/4/03 respectively.
2. Claims 1-13 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 7 and 8 are independent claims. In the Amendment B, claims 1-3 and 5-10 were amended, and claims 11-13 were added. This action is made Non-Final.
3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rangan et al. ("Rangan", US 6,154,771) in view of Jackson et al., ("Jackson" US. 5,990,941).

As per claims 1, Rangan teaches a transmitting method comprising steps of: multiplexing a signal of a picture including a selectable object, with information relevant to the selectable object in the picture, and transmitting the multiplexed picture signal; wherein a visible symbol to which reference is made when selecting the selectable object is presented in the picture corresponding to the selectable object (col. 12, lines 14-22; col. 23, lines 18-19; and col. 25, line 57 et seq.; *the selectable object having displayable annotation / hotspot and its associated URL*).

Although Rangan teaches the relevant information multiplexed with the picture signal to include an address of the selectable object and display content (col. 25, lines 64-65), Rangan fails to teach the relevant information to indicate a zooming start position, and a zooming end

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position, and when the selectable object is selected by referring to the symbol, the display content is displayed on a screen by zooming in according to the zooming start position and the zooming end position.

However, the steps of zooming into an interested object as well as displaying two related pictures simultaneously on a screen are well known in the art. For instance, Jackson et al., ("Jackson" US. 5,990,941), teaches a method for interactive display of various image data including motion picture and video in a multi-casting environment (col. 1, lines 46-54; col. 10, lines 12-17), wherein an object of interest could be selected and zoomed in (col. 4, lines 3-7; col. 10, lines 42-44). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include these features with Rangan's method in order to further enhance the user's focus on the selected object with its associated relevant information during the interactive session. It is further noted that while Jackson does not explicitly disclose zooming start and end positions which control the display content, the start and end positions are inherent to any zooming process as predetermined processing information, based on which the system could render the enlarged picture properly on the screen as expected to the viewers.

As per claims 2-3, Rangan teaches the method wherein the relevant information includes an identification information for unique identification of the selectable object, and wherein the content is character data showing the content of the selectable object (col. 25, line 57-65; *the selectable object having displayable annotation / hotspot and its uniquely associated URL*).

As per claim 4, Rangan teaches one or more channels carrying information relevant to the selectable object being used for the signal of the picture including the selectable object, and the information channels are selected by entering, by select keys of an input means, a symbol of a

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channel number with which reference is made to the channels (col. 25, lines 19-21; col. 9, lines 1-7).

As per claims 5-6, although Rangan and Jackson teach the step of zooming in a picture based on a start point, the method of Rangan and Jackson fails to disclose the steps of displaying and/or interrupting an on-going process to display two related pictures simultaneously on a screen. However, the such features are well known in the art. It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include these features with the method of Rangan and Jackson in order to further provide the user with not only a focus on the selected object with its associated relevant information during the interactive session, but also a broad view of the big picture.

Claims 7-8 are individually similar in scope to claim 1, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 9-10 are individually similar in scope to claim 5, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

As per claim 11, the method of Rangan and Jackson does not explicitly disclose the relevant information to indicate a zoomed display size and the display content to be displayed according to the zoomed display size. However, it is noted that these steps are inherent in any zoom operation, since a display dimension and location must be known and provided to the system in order for the zoom operation to perform the rendering properly.

Claims 12-13 are individually similar in scope to claim 11, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

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Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-10 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Inquires

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sy Luu whose telephone number is (703) 305-0409. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 7:00 am to 4:30 pm (EST). The examiner can also be reached on alternate Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached on (703) 308-0640.

The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.



**SY D. LUU
PRIMARY EXAMINER**